

## RESOLUTION # 33

### PINELANDS

1           **WHEREAS**, there have been 2,811 farms covering 247,920 acres permanently  
2 preserved through the Farmland Preservation Program, including 143 farms covering 15,722  
3 acres in the Pinelands; and

4           **WHEREAS**, the permanent preservation of farmland within the Pinelands Area is  
5 consistent with the goals and objectives of the Pinelands Protection Act, the Pinelands  
6 Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP), the Agriculture Retention and Development Act  
7 (ARDA), and the Garden State Preservation Trust Act (GSPT Act); and

8           **WHEREAS**, the Pinelands Commission established a formal agriculture committee in  
9 2015 comprised entirely of commission members to review and make recommendations to  
10 the full Commission about agriculture-related matters, including proposed amendments to the  
11 Comprehensive Management Plan, permitting requirements, proposed legislation and  
12 rulemaking by other agencies.

13           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the delegates to the 108<sup>th</sup> State  
14 Agricultural Convention, assembled in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on February 8-9, 2023,  
15 support the State Agriculture Development Committee's (SADC) ongoing efforts to promote  
16 the enrollment of Pinelands farms into the State Farmland Preservation Program through all  
17 of the SADC's programs.

18           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we urge the SADC to continue allowing both  
19 appraisal valuations and formula valuations for each application submitted in order to make  
20 an offer to the landowner based on the higher of the two values.

21           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we urge the Legislature to pass and the Governor  
22 to sign legislation that would allow all Pinelands Commission members to fully participate in  
23 deliberations and voting on any amendments to the CMP, while respecting conflict of interest  
24 concerns related to specific issues that would impact individual landowners.

25           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we encourage the Pinelands Commission to

26 explore adding non-voting farmer members to its Agriculture Committee and seek the active  
27 participation of the agricultural community by reactivating the Pinelands Agriculture Advisory  
28 Committee and utilizing it as a resource in deliberations about agriculture-related matters that  
29 come before this new Committee.

30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we encourage that any amendments to the  
31 Pinelands CMP or PDC program that have an effect on agricultural interests be done only in  
32 a manner that does not diminish or dilute the demand for, or market value of, PDCs.

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we encourage the active participation of the  
34 agricultural community in the development of any amendments to the Pinelands CMP or PDC  
35 program that have an effect on agricultural interests, through consultation with the Pinelands  
36 Agricultural Advisory Committee or other such body representing the landowners of the  
37 Pinelands Area.

38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we urge the Governor to immediately nominate a  
39 member to the Pinelands Commission to represent economic activities, such as agriculture,  
40 consistent with Article 5.b of the Pinelands Protection Act.